

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VALLET 00171 111419Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - CARTER ADMINISTRATION, CABINET, FOREIGN
POLICY OUTLOOK

REF: WIS CIRCULAR USIA-3513

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS
FROM AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "JIMMY CARTER'S REALISM," WRITTEN
BY DR. MICHAEL REFALO, NATIONALIST PARTY MP, AND APPEARING
IN THE FEBRUARY 6 ISSUE OF IL-MUMENT (THE MOMENT, NATIONALIST
WEEKLY):

2. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE'S TRIP WAS
TO GIVE EUROPEAN LEADERS A CLEAR MESSAGE AS TO HOW AMERICA
UNDER CARTER WOULD BE CONDUCTING ITS FOREIGN RELATIONS.....

3. AS LONG AS THE EASTERN BLOC DOES NOT TAKE CONCRETE
MEASURES TOWARD ITS OWN DISARMAMENT, AMERICA WILL BE
MAINTAINING ITS ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE AT CURRENT LEVELS.
IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT CARTER WILL ADOPT A TOUGH LINE TOWARD
THE EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES..... U.S. POLICY WILL BE TO GIVE
ONLY IF IT WILL GET SOMETHING ELSE IN RETURN.

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4. THE MALTESE PEOPLE, THROUGH ITS REPRESENTATIVES FROM
THE TWO PARTIES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HAVE SHOWN
THEIR DESIRE TO WORK FOR PEACE... THE ULTIMATE DREAM OF
THOSE WHO TRULY LOVE PEACE IS THAT THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO
DEPEND (FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD) ON RESOURCES DERIVING FROM A
MILITARY PRESENCE AND NEVER TO HAVE TO RESORT TO THE USE OF
MILITARY MEANS. HOWEVER, THERE IS A WIDE GAP BETWEEN THIS

MALTESE DREAM AND WORLD REALITY. NOBODY CAN BE CRITICAL OF THOSE WHO DEVOTE THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO THE IDEAL OF PEACE, BUT TO PLACE THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE IS NOT PRUDENT.

5. RECENTLY, THE PRIME MINISTER WAS INTERVIEWED BY THE HERALD TRIBUNE'S CORRESPONDENT, C.L. SULZBERGER, WHO WROTE TWO ARTICLES ABOUT THE INTERVIEW. ONE OF THE ARTICLES WAS PUBLISHED IN THE ISSUE OF JANUARY 12. IN THE ARTICLE, SULZBERGER STARTS BY SAYING THAT MINTOFF' NOTION OF EXCLUDING THE RUSSIAN AND AMERICAN FLEETS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN AND TO FORM A NEUTRAL OR NON-ALIGNED BLOC AMONG THE EUROPEAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES BORDERING THE MEDITERRANEAN DIAMETRICALLY CONFLICTS WITH NATO'S AND AMERICA'S POLICY.

6. SULZBERGER CONCLUDES HIS ARTICLE BY SAYING PRECISELY THE FOLLOWING: "THERE IS NOTHING FUNDAMENTALLY WRONG WITH MINTOFF'S BASIC FOREIGN POLICY IDEA, EXCEPT ITS TIMING - WHICH IS PREMATURE."

7. MAYBE, AND WE HOPE SO, THE TIME WILL COME. BUT FOR THE MOMENT WE HAD BETTER SEE HOW WE CAN ADJUST TO THE REAL WORLD AROUND US. THIS IS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S MESSAGE TO THE FREE WORLD OF THE WEST AND HIS WARNING TO THE LEADERS OF THE OTHER MILITARY BLOC." RADDAY

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